

Washington Massage

NEWS



Wash. Chapter, American Association Masseurs & Masseuses

MARCH 1957

RUTH WILLIAMS, EDITOR

KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON

Convention plans are rapidly moving ahead as your convention committee swings into step. Ads are coming in every day for the Souvenir Programs. If you have not sent in your ad as yet, do so today! Please!

DEADLINE APRIL 15, 1957

Speaking of deadlines I am reminded of our small neighbor boy whose father kept putting off the purchase of his auto licence, remarking each day that he must get them before the deadline of Feb. 15. Upon the last day he finally went to get them, taking son along, and had to wait an hour in line. When Sonny got home he told his mother, "That was the longest 'deadline' I ever saw!"

Please! Lets have a short 'Dead line'!

Something new is going to be tried in our convention this year. We are going to devote our afternoons to a training or refresher course and give a certificate to all members who have attended the lectures, demonstrations, educational films and taken the short written examination afterward.

This will give convention members something to display in their offices to prove that convention means something besides a brawl and is not time wasted.

Dr. Jennie Cotner is to be one of our speakers, her subject is to be announced later. Jess C. Williams will give a chart talk on the colon, its care and plans for building an economical irrigator for professional use. Fred Lick, Pasco, will speak on the subject of Self-analysis concerning our business and person. We have some fine film lined up and have planned a well rounded program with lots of fun too.

Registration fee will be \$10.00 for each person registered into convention and this will include the price of the banquet, the Buffet supper and the Sunday breakfast, etc.

Prices of rooms at the Black Angus Motel will be in the next issue and more information concerning convention.

Ladies be sure to bring your formal gown for the banquet, for we are going to put on a little dog just for fun. Of course it will be semi-formal so if you would rather wear something else you may, but we think that since we will be having it at the Social Club we should look like a fine party. Then there will be the swimming party at the Black Angus Pool, so remember your suits also.

We have heard from some of the delegates in Utah and California that are planning to be here so be sure and reserve June 7-8-9, 1957 to give your selves a fine educational vacation in Kennewick, Wash.

FIVE-STATE CONVENTION FOR FIFTY SEVEN
HELD IN FOOTHILLS OF HORSE HEAVEN

REMEMBER

TO

REMEMBER

CON VEN TION N N N

Across The Secretary's Desk

I have known many people whose brains were as prolific as rabbits'. Their minds would become pregnant with an idea, ~~go~~ through a gestation period and give birth to a healthy, brilliant brain-child without any apparent effort. I am not so fortunate. The births of my few brain-children have been attended by great pain and struggle, and some of them have been pretty puny and scrawny. They were probably premature, although there is no method of measuring the gestation period of an idea. The only consolation I have is the fact that none of them were illegitimate. They were the result of honest, honorable and legitimate effort.

Realizing, therefore, that my present efforts may result in the birth of another little mental and literary monstrosity, I take pen in hand to add something more to the sum total of human experience. With an apology to John A. Murray and Milton A. Niedfelt for my delinquency in answering their letters, I shall attempt to discuss the contents of their letters in this article. They contained good and sound State Chapter business and may interest our members, as well as those good and capable masseurs and masseuses who have not, as yet, joined the A.A.M.M.

Some time ago, quite a stir was created by the hillbilly feud carried on between a few of our members. The matter was thrown into the laps of the officers and directors of the State Chapter and they were expected to find a solution to the problem. Up to the present time, no solution has been found and I am of the opinion that the solution will come from those having done the feuding, when they recognize the futility of their actions and proceed to correct their psychological maladjustments.

As an admonition to myself, the other officers and directors and the membership in general, I emphatically state that when a man or a woman becomes a member of an organization, he or she must immediately lose his or her identity in the interests of the entire membership and the members must support and assist the officers. A selfish or an arbitrary act by any one officer or member results in injury to all. Each one of us, including myself, is expendable-- if the success of the organization is at stake. I would much rather be a peacemaker than a trouble-maker and I have found that all our officers and directors feel likewise. Let us all remind ourselves that Jesus washed and anointed the feet of his disciples and that He instructed us to love our enemies as well as our friends.

It is my hope and sincere belief that our Board of Directors may never be compelled to sit in judgment on anyone. Neither priest nor pontiff nor prelate nor parishoner; neither protestant nor pastor nor puritan nor prostitute can say: "I am the child of God, but you are not. I was created in God's image, but you were not." Applying the same rule, the Board cannot say, "You are guilty, but he or she is not." The Board can only decide that the State Chapter would succeed to a greater degree without those who disrupt its harmony and progress. I say this with the greatest humility and awareness of my own faults.

Our State President, John A. Murray, requested me in one of his letters to submit suggestions to him from the Spokane Chapter in the matter of increasing the membership of the State Chapter. I believe the Seattle Chapter has already supplied the answer. It was reported in

a recent issue of the Washington Massage News that Seattle Local Chapter had voted to use some of the cash in the State Legislative Fund in employing a qualified lobbyist to guard our interests in the State Legislature. A Defense Fund was also discussed. This fund would be used to defend any member who found himself or herself in trouble through no fault of his or her own. The Spokane Local Chapter took similar action by voting support to the Seattle members. It is understood, however, that the Defense Fund would be acted upon at our next State Convention. Ways and means must also be found to provide the money for the fund. Each member pays \$1.00 per month in dues and only 50¢ per month remains in the State Treasury. Many labor union members pay several times this amount and that is exactly the source of security for the members. The expense of a lobbyist can probably be shared with other groups of people who require his services. He would see that we are not included in any bills submitted by naturopaths, mechano-therapists, etc.

It is precisely such progress and such benefits as those which make an organization more valuable and more attractive to the members and to those who ought to become members. I suggest that we also consider paying the mileage and other itemized expenditures of some energetic member who might be willing to spend some spare time in contracting and persuading qualified masseurs and masseuses to join the A.A.M.M.

Milton A. Niedfelt sent me a very interesting letter in which he described a meeting and banquet of the Chiropractors' Association at which he had been an invited guest. His letter mentioned their gratitude to us masseurs for our support of the Chiropractic Initiative which was voted upon by the voters. This started a chain of thought and resulted in an idea. It occurred to me that much concrete benefit might be realized by both groups, if we could negotiate an agreement with the chiropractors. This agreement would specify that no jurisdictional dispute should ever arise between us. In a recent issue of the National Masseuse, a case was reported from an Eastern State in which a masseur had been charged with practicing chiropractic. The charge was filed by a chiropractor but the case was thrown out of court because the masseur was using the Swedish Massage Methods which he had learned from his studies and his training as a masseur.

This is a situation that would never arise, if the various professional groups would practice tolerance instead of greed. The relief of human suffering requires the combined efforts of all professional people. Each group contributes the type of care that it is trained to give. It is very stupid to resort to unfair or crooked maneuvering by any group or any individual. It is also criminally unfair to the public, when the public is denied free choice of the type of care they want or need.

No single professional group has a monopoly on any type of professional care. Internal medicine is practiced by Medical Doctors, Naturopaths, Homeopaths, Osteopaths, Chiropractors, Herbalists, etc. The use of electrical equipment and other modalities is not the exclusive right nor privilege of any group. Massage is practiced by Swedish-Masseurs, Mechano-therapists and, to a certain extent, by

Nurses, Osteopaths, Physical Therapists, Chiropractors, etc. The movement and manipulation of the joints, including the spine, is practiced by Chiropractors, Osteopaths, Naturopaths, Myopractors, Naprapaths, Swedish Masseur, Physical Therapists and others. Hydrotherapy is not denied to anyone.

The above statements may seem very confusing, unless we also state that each professional group uses its own particular method or technique as it is taught in its own schools. An Herbalist does not use the medicines of a Medical Doctor; a Homeopath does not practice Naturopathy; a Swedish Masseur does not use Chiropractic, Myopractic, Physical Therapy nor any other method aside from the Swedish Massage Methods taught in schools and colleges of Swedish Massage. These methods have been used by them for centuries and no other group has the moral right to interfere with them. Swedish Masseurs have never attempted to interfere with other professional groups, to my knowledge. Our sole desire is to live and work in peace with all of them and to preserve the rights and privileges of all of them. Any other attitude by us of anyone else is not true Americanism. We Masseurs and Masseuses have an open mind--but not a hole in the head.

Fraternally,
Pete I. Eitheim, R.M.

The next meeting of the Seattle Chapter of the A.A.M.M. will be held May 11th at the Dinner Bell Restaurant--4th between Pike and Union. The address is 1422, 4th Ave.

All members please make a special effort to be present as we will be electing officers for the coming fiscal year.

The procedure will be the same as usual, all those planning to dine together at the Restaurant come at 7:00 P.M. Those attending just the meeting 8:00 P.M.

Dear Editor;

I was a member of A.A.M.M. and have quit my business as Masseur and want to sell all my equipment which cost me new better than \$2500.00.

Anyone who may be interested in any of the equipment, I will send photos to.

Yours sincerely,
John A. Duprey
2306 Rainier
Everett, Wash.

There will be a few minutes devoted to discussion of the following question: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE A.A.M.M. DO THAT WOULD AID OR BENEFIT YOU IN YOUR OWN PRIVATE PRACTICE?

Give this question some serious thought and bring your suggestions with you to Convention in Kennewick, Wash. June 7-8-9-, 1957. No suggestion is too ridiculous to consider for it may be the beginning of an idea that can be made to work for us.

OREGON NEWS
(South of the border, down Oregon way.)

The last meeting of the Oregon Chapter of A.A.M.M. was held on Sunday March 10th at Maria Lindermann's home in Portland, Oregon. Besides a good attendance of chapter members, a number of visitors were welcomed to our meeting.

Principle topic of conversations were of pending legislation now before the state legislature, especially Sen. Bill #283.. his Bill is one of the most monopolistic peices of legeslation to come before an any legislature in years. Seems quite apparant that the majority of us Masseurs and Masseuses and therapists have been to complacant with things as they have cometo pass, and have not taken enough interest in their own rights to observe the encroachment of the minority. From observations gathered at a special meeting of the Sen Committee in Pm#400 State House on Public health, the proponents of Sb. #283 figured they had everything sewed up in the morning. Just where the rest of the majority were when the braing were passed out is a question beyond by comprehension, even the Chiros were there in force to express their opposition to this bill. All of which just foes to show, if we don't hang together we're all apt to hang seperately, and that is where the A.A.M.M. comes in. Had I not been present, together with other masseurs, to speak against this Bill, the committee on Public Health might have fallen for all the "Choice words and tidbits" propounded in their behalf. As matters stand, the bill is still in committee, and we're all waiting to find out just what the outcome will be.

Just who these few therapists think they are, is a matter of conjecture. Since when has the minority over ruled the majority? These therapists are mostly salaried, working for the fov't, state, clinics, or doctors. None, I dare say, have the intestinal fortitude to stand on their own feet, rent an office, pay for the elec, heat, water, advertising, put out their "shingle" and take fusiness as they find it. No, instead they hide behind the aprons of F not ot také a patient without a Doctors prescription" In their case, with others furnishing their salary, they can well afford to stay tied to the apron strings, since they don't stand to lose a days work becausi it was pouring down rain, or a cold snowy day kept patients away, or a million other reasons that the individual operator won't get paid for. Yet, they think and feel thgyre so much better trained than the rest of us 'poor devils' that they want us to pick up the crumbs that might fall from the table.

May I call to your attention of the Five State Convention that will be held June 7,8,9 1957 in Kennewick, Washington. This convent-ion is a very important adjunct to your every day life, and your att- endande will enlighten you as how, why and what the other fellow is doing, which could in some way, help yourself. If you can't go to national in Pottsville, Pa. why not take a few days off and take in the regional convention? It's worth your time and money. Try it and see!

Signed,
C.A. Tyler, Pres.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU HAVE HAD A REFRESHER COURSE? DO

NOT MISS THIS OPPERTUNITY TO REFRESH AND ADD TO THE KNOWLEDGE YOU NOW HAVE. YOUR \$10.00 REGISTRATION FEE WILL COUVER ALL EXPENSE OF THIS ADDED FEATURE.